



Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2008

Summary

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Members in Attendance (19):

Dennis Burke, Chair (Governor's Office)
Jean Ajamie (Department of Education)
Tom Betlach (AHCCCS)
Scott Cocuzza (Business Leader)
Kenneth Deibert (Department of Economic Security)
Richard Fimbres (Governor's Office of Highway Safety)
Major Scott Hadley (National Guard)
Jane Irvine (Attorney General's Office)
Irene Jacobs (Governor's Office of Children, Youth and Families - Executive Director and Senior Policy Advisor)
Dona Markley on behalf of Dora Schriro (Department of Corrections)
Duce Minor (Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment - PAACE)
Dr. Laura Nelson (Department of Health Services)
Kim O'Connor (Governor's Office/Division of Substance Abuse Policy)
Jerry Oliver (AZ Department of Liquor License and Control)
Christopher Vasquez (Pinal County Sheriff) - attended by phone
Dr. Kellie Warren (Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections)
Kathy Waters on behalf of Dave Byers (Administrative Office of the Courts)
Brian Wilcox on behalf of David Wilcox (Department of Public Safety)
Karen Ziegler (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Members Absent (6):

Suzie Barr (Ex-Officio, Governor's Office)
Anthony Coulson (Drug Enforcement Administration)
Marnie Hodankwen (Ex-Officio, Governor's Office)
Mary Joyce Pruden (Ex-Officio, SAMHSA/CSAP)
Jeff Sanders (Community Member)
Mary Sergio-Boyer (COPE Behavioral Services, Inc.)

Committee Members in Attendance (2):

Lisa Shumaker (Underage Drinking Committee)
Linda Weinberg (Workforce Development Committee)

Public (1):

Angie Rodgers (Governor's Senior Policy Advisor on Health and Human Services)



Call to Order

Mr. Dennis Burke called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Burke welcomed members to the meeting and introduced two new members, Dr. Laura Nelson (Department of Health, Division of Behavioral Health Services) and Major Scott Hadley (Arizona National Guard). All of the ASAP members introduced themselves.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Burke asked members to review the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Joe Minor motioned to approve the minutes as written and the motion was seconded by Mr. Ken Deibert and was carried with no objections.

Strategic Focus Areas for 2008

Mr. Jim Copple (SAI) mentioned the four strategic focus areas for 2008, which were then discussed in further detail.

- **Child Welfare/Substance Abuse**

Angie Rodgers reviewed a survey that was given to all Child Protective Services (CPS) case managers on their perception of their caseloads. She noted that they reported that 50% of adults in their caseload were using drugs. Almost 92% of those parents were referred to treatment, 1/3 were referred for treatment, 1/3 got treatment but not the treatment that was given by the case manager. Of those who received treatment, 25% took 1-2 weeks to access treatment. The overall feeling is that the adults were not engaged. Treatment was not received for several reasons: it was either not available or the facility was at capacity, or the parents changed their minds about wanting treatment.

Mr. Rodgers also reported on the Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity Report that was provided the Governor at the April 15th Children's Cabinet meeting. She noted several findings of the report.

- Department of Health Services (DHS) and all child-serving agencies surveyed their providers on their capacity to serve substance abuse clients. It was found that the Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. program has the capacity to serve 1200 individuals in non-residential treatment services. It was found that there is a large need for residential treatment for youth. It appears that there are large numbers of providers in Maricopa County, but these numbers are low in comparison to other counties.
- Ms. Kim O'Connor expressed her gratitude to those that prepared this report for the Governor, specifically the Department of Health Services, Department of Economic Security and the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group.



Dr. Laura Nelson discussed the next steps from the Capacity Report. Dr. Nelson noted that although there were limitations in the data, the report contains the most comprehensive data that the system has had.

Dr. Nelson mentioned that some providers counted all hospital beds on the survey as open for substance abuse treatment. The data analysts tried not to duplicate providers that are serving different areas of the state. There is a large gap in the adolescent side of the substance abuse treatment services throughout the state.

As a next step, DHS will work on the barriers for providers to contract with Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBA's). DHS will work with RHBA's on their capacity and will help them with their network plans. DHS will guide RHBA's to achieve the outcomes they seek by developing a monitoring tool to ensure that programs are available to the population they are serving. The upcoming focus will be on an outpatient capacity more so than inpatient.

Mr. Ken Deibert noted that often providers in the survey did not report having waiting lists, as instead they were increasing their capacity. Mr. Deibert noted that he wants to ensure that the quality in treatment exists, not just the ability to add capacity. He wants to focus on the definition of capacity.

Mr. Copple mentioned that at the meeting ASAP would want to see how this information would apply to the recommendations and Executive Action Briefing. Dr. Kellie Warren inquired as to whether new data will continue to be collected. Dr. Nelson noted her excitement to have other stakeholders at the table. Mr. Duce Minor mentioned that the rural areas are struggling with accessibility to treatment centers.

Ms. O'Connor mentioned that the next step in Executive Order 2008-01 is a report from all executive branch agencies to the Governor to describe how their agencies have made changes in focus of programs in response to the Executive Order. Agency responses are due to ASAP on June 30th, and the report is due to the Governor on September 30th. Ms. Morgan Hester noted the draft letter included in the member's binders which is a model for the document that will be sent to state agencies asking for them to report on their actions pursuant to the Executive Order. Members were encouraged to provide feedback to Ms. Hester via email. Ms. Irene Jacobs stressed that the information being reported to ASAP should be very specific.

- **Law Enforcement/Drug Trafficking**

Brian Wilcox (Department of Public Safety) provided a presentation on this Strategic Focus Area, addressing current trends related to law enforcement. Mr. Wilcox displayed photos of the border regions and ports of entry, including illegal tunnels. He mentioned that in 2006, 900,000 pounds of marijuana was interdicted in Arizona, and in 2007 over 1 million pounds of marijuana were interdicted.

Mr. Wilcox discussed drug trafficking organizations, stating that the smugglers that are coming across the border are becoming more violent and are carrying more weapons. He also presented photos of vehicles that have been used to hide and smuggle drugs into Arizona. Mr.



Wilcox explained that DPS drug interdiction cases are posted on the Internet so other law enforcement agencies are able to receive data and share information. Mr. Wilcox mentioned that DPS had recently started a commercial vehicle interdiction task force. Mr. Burke asked if commercial vehicle trafficking is a new trend, to which Mr. Wilcox responded that it is not, but that the commercial trucks intimidate officers, as there are different set of rules that follow these types of traffic stops.

Mr. Copple mentioned that 43% of the of the drugs coming across the border into the US come through the Arizona border, and mentioned that at the next meeting the partnership should be informed on the progress that has been made. Ms. O'Connor mentioned that law enforcement representatives will be meeting at the upcoming substance abuse conference and should have outcomes to present at the next ASAP meeting. Mr. Wilcox mentioned the recent busts that occurred through partnerships with law enforcement in California, and stressed how critical those partnerships are to drug interdiction.

- **Data Driven Decisions and Policy Development**

Mr. Copple provided an update on this focus area, as Mr. Stevenson was unable to attend the meeting. He reviewed the new Executive Action Briefing in this area. The Epidemiology Work Group is embracing the charge to collect data and be able to analyze the data from different sectors. Mr. Copple mentioned an initiative in the Meth Task Force Annual Report which proposed to replicate AARIN, a program which collected criminal justice data on substance abuse but which lost its funding and is now only operating in Maricopa County. This program was not included as a recommendation in the Executive Action Briefing due to the current budget climate.

- **Emerging Trends and the State's Capacity to Respond**

Mr. Copple provided a presentation on this focus area to the group. He noted that a United Nations study shows that Americans account for 60% of global drug consumption, and that methamphetamine is the number one drug problem worldwide. Data shows that Americans incarcerate more of its citizens for drug use than any other industrialized country in the world, though they produce only 4% of all illicit drugs. Mr. Copple defined emerging drug issues as patterns of drug use in specific populations, specific age groups, or various modifications or changes in substances. Mr. Copple mentioned that some emerging drug issues are methamphetamine laced with ecstasy, prescription drug use, and alcohol/flavored malt beverages and young women.

Mr. Copple discussed prevention strategies to emerging issues, mentioning risk factors, protective factors, environments of resilience, and individual vs. environmental or both. Definitions and examples of each of these prevention strategies were provided to the group. Indicators of emerging trends include neighborhood drug use patterns, arrestee data, emergency room admissions, school based surveys, and media mainstreaming. Some challenges that states face with emerging trends are surveillance systems to monitor trends, committed analysis to monitor and measure trends, and building community capacity to identify and report emerging drug use trends. Ms. Karen Ziegler mentioned that the Arizona Youth Survey does focus on risk



and protective factors, and this information is made available. Mr. Jerry Oliver stated that his experience is that the term “normal” is the problem and he wants to know how we change the meaning of this term in these communities from negative to more positive norms. Mr. Minor mentioned that he is happy that this information is shared with the group and shared that in his community they focus on the protective factors instead of the risk factors because they feel they do not have the ability to change the risk factors. Ms. Kathy Waters discussed how the criminal justice system focuses on the “static factor”, and how they are currently focusing on the “needs” side in her field. Mr. Burke mentioned the “Getting Ready” program that the Department of Corrections has instituted and which is being considered for an award from Harvard University.

Report on Coalitions

Angela Baldasare and Chuck Palm of the Pima Prevention Partnership provided the group with an update on coalitions in the state and presented a PowerPoint. They gave a brief overview of the coalitions that are funded through the Governor’s Office, which include 17 anti-methamphetamine and 11 SPF-SIG coalitions throughout the state. A description of the SPF-SIG model and how the coalitions are using this model was given to the partnership. A brief description was given of the plans that were developed by the coalitions, which include environmental and non- environmental strategies that can impact their local communities. Ms. Baldasare discussed infrastructure outcomes that have been developed by the coalitions. These coalitions follow a grassroots approach to impact their communities by creating sub-committees to address issues that are relevant to their area. All coalition members were trained on how to complete a community readiness survey, as well as on using existing state data systems. Mr. Palm shared information regarding the anti-methamphetamine coalitions and their development of environmental and non-environmental strategies.

Committee Updates

Ms. Hester referred members to their binders to review a one-page sheet on committee outcomes from each of the committees, rather than reporting on them during the meeting due to time constraints. She also referred members to a list of proposed membership changes to the committees for their review and approval. Mr. Richard Fimbres motioned to accept the membership changes and the motion was seconded and carried with no objections.

Methamphetamine Annual Report

Ms. O’Connor reviewed outcomes from the Meth Task Force Annual Report 2007 and referred members to the draft annual report in their binders. Members were asked to contact Briana Kreibich (Governor’s Office) with any comments or changes to the annual report. Mr. Burke reviewed information regarding the Crystal Darkness documentary that aired on April 15, 2008. Dr. Nelson asked what efforts were occurring to promote the hotline number after the documentary. Ms. O’Connor responded that she would ask this question at the next Crystal Darkness Committee meeting.

National Guard Update



Major Scott Hadley of the Arizona Army National Guard provided a PowerPoint presentation and an overview of the National Guard's counter drug program addressing both supply and demand reduction programs. Challenges faced by the National Guard have been deployment, funding, and leadership continuity. Major Hadley stated that 90% of the Guardsmen they have on order focus on supply reduction, and gave an overview of the technology used by the Guard. A review of the Guard's drug seizures is provided. Major Hadley noted that the National Guard provides a variety of demand reduction activities for communities and coalitions to support their efforts in fighting substance abuse.

Upcoming Events

Ms. O'Connor referred members to the calendar of events in their binder which includes the upcoming substance abuse conference and the next upcoming meeting.

Future Meeting Schedule

June 26, 2008 1:00-3:00 pm

Mr. Burke announced that the next ASAP meeting would be held on June 26, 2008.

Call to the Public

Mr. Burke made a call to the public and there was no response.

Adjourn

Mr. Burke adjourned the meeting at 4:05 pm.